

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Laurence on July 27, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 1, line 7, "at least one" has been changed to -- at least two --.

In claim 1, line 8, "along its" has been changed to -- along their --.

In claim 11, line 3, "the at least one" has been changed to -- the at least another one --.

In claim 12, line 3, "the at least one" has been changed to -- the at least another one --.

In claim 13, line 3, "the at least one" has been changed to -- the at least another one --.

In claim 14, line 3, "the at least one" has been changed to -- the at least another one --.

In claim 22, line 3, "member with threads" has been changed to -- member threads --.

In claim 24, line 3, "at least one" has been changed to -- at least two --.

In claim 24, line 4, "along its" has been changed to -- along their --.

In claim 24, line 8, "the second component member" has been changed to -- the first component member --.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robin Hylton whose telephone number is (571) 272-4540. The examiner can normally be reached Monday - Friday, **EXCEPT** Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Stashick, can be reached on (571) 272-4561.

Art Unit: 3781

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Other helpful telephone numbers are listed for applicant's benefit:

- Allowed Files & Publication (888) 786-0101
- Assignment Branch (800) 972-6382
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- Internet PTO-Home Page <http://www.uspto.gov>

July 27, 2010

/Robin A. Hylton/
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GAU 3781